

PTO/SB/21 (01-03)

Approved for use through 04/30/2003. OMB 0651-0031  
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**TRANSMITTAL  
FORM**

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b> (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/615,572
	Filing Date	July 8, 2003
	First Named Inventor	Robert R. HUNTER
	Art Unit	2857
	Examiner Name	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	Attorney Docket Number	TREND-00101

**ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)**

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please Identify below):  Return Postcard, and 2 References
<b>Remarks</b>		

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT**

Firm or Individual	Derek J. Westberg (Reg. No. 40,872)
Signature	
Date	Jan 9, 2004

**CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this date: Jan 9, 2004		
Typed or printed	Daniel Ratoff	
Signature		Date Jan 9, 2004

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Atty. Dkt. No.

TREND-00101

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: Robert R. Hunter. Confirmation No.: 8982  
Application No: 10/615,572 Examiner:  
Filing Date: 7/8/2003 Group Art Unit: 2857  
Title: A METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR READING AND CONTROLLING  
UTILITY CONSUMPTION

\* \* \*

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner For Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

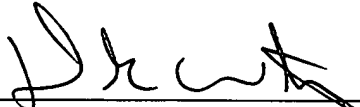
Dear Sir/Madam:

Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.56(a) and 1.97(b), Applicant hereby cites the following documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A.

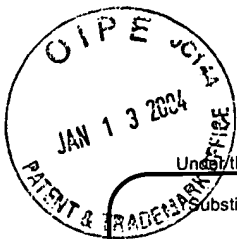
In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(h) the filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission that the information cited in this statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in § 1.56(b).

The Commissioner is also authorized to charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1610.

Respectfully submitted,  
Law Office of Derek J. Westberg

By   
Derek J. Westberg  
Reg. No. 40,872

Jan. 9, 2004  
Date



PTO/SB/08A (04-03)

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/615,572
Filing Date	7/8/2003
First Named Inventor	Robert R. HUNTER
Art Unit	2857
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	TREND-00101

Sheet 1 of 1

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US- 5,511,188-A	04-23-1996	Pascucci, et al.	
		US- 5,522,044-A	05-28-1996	Pascucci, et al.	
		US- 5,550,988-A	08-27-1996	Sarangdhar, et al.	
		US- 5,553,609-A	09-10-1996	Chen, et al.	
		US- 5,555,195-A	09-10-1996	Jensen, et al.	
		US- 5,572,438-A	11-05-1996	Ehlers, et al.	
		US- 5,678,042-A	10-14-1997	Pisello, et al.	
		US- 5,684,826-A	11-04-1997	Ratner	
		US- 5,742,762-A	04-21-1998	Scholl, et al.	
		US- 5,804,802-A	09-08-1998	Card, et al.	
		US- 5,913,036-A	06-15-1999	Brownmiller, et al.	
		US- 5,924,486-A	07-20-1999	Ehlers, et al.	
		US- 5,968,176-A	10-19-1999	Nessett, et al.	
		US- 6,012,152-A	01-04-2000	Douik, et al.	
		US- 4,747,041-A	05-24-1988	Engel, et al.	
		US- 4,939,728-A	07-03-1990	Markkula, Jr., et al.	
		US- 5,086,385-A	02-04-1992	Launey, et al.	
		US- 5,333,183-A	07-26-1994	Herbert	
		US- 5,446,677-A	08-29-1995	Jensen, et al.	

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
		EP-0 967 766-A2	12-29-1999	Netbrowser Communications		
		WO-03/003029-A3	01-09-2003	TREND-POINT SYSTEMS, INC.		

Examiner  
SignatureDate  
Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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